GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5172
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2001
UPGRADATION OF PATENT OFFICE AT CHENNAI
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to upgrade Patent Office at Chennai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the proposal received in Chennai office, in the last three years;

(d) the proposal cleared for the same period ;

(e) whether more than 10,000 applications are yet to be cleared in Chennai office alone as on March, 2001; and

(f) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government to expedite the clearing of such large number of proposals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR.RAMAN SINGH)

(a) to (d): Yes, sir. Government has taken up a project to modernise all the Patent offices, including Chennai. This includes infrastructure development, human resource development, computerization and re-engineering of work procedures, networking of all the offices and elimination of backlog of pending applications, awareness creation activities, etc. For the Chennai Patent office, additional office space of nearly 12,500 sq. ft. at Anna Salai has been acquired and furnished with all necessary infrastructural facilities including computers to ensure efficient patent administration.

(e) & (f): Yes sir. In order to clear the backlog of unexamined patent applications, action has been taken to recruit and train adequate number of technical officers and support staff, providing computerised search and other facilities in the office.